

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry slime-o-mentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Use of the public airwaves for a biased obvious attempt to sway an election is an illegal contribution to a political party and a manipulation of the system to advantage one political party.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve rejection of renewal when the ownership has been used to present biased politically motivated pre-emption of programming. Thank you.